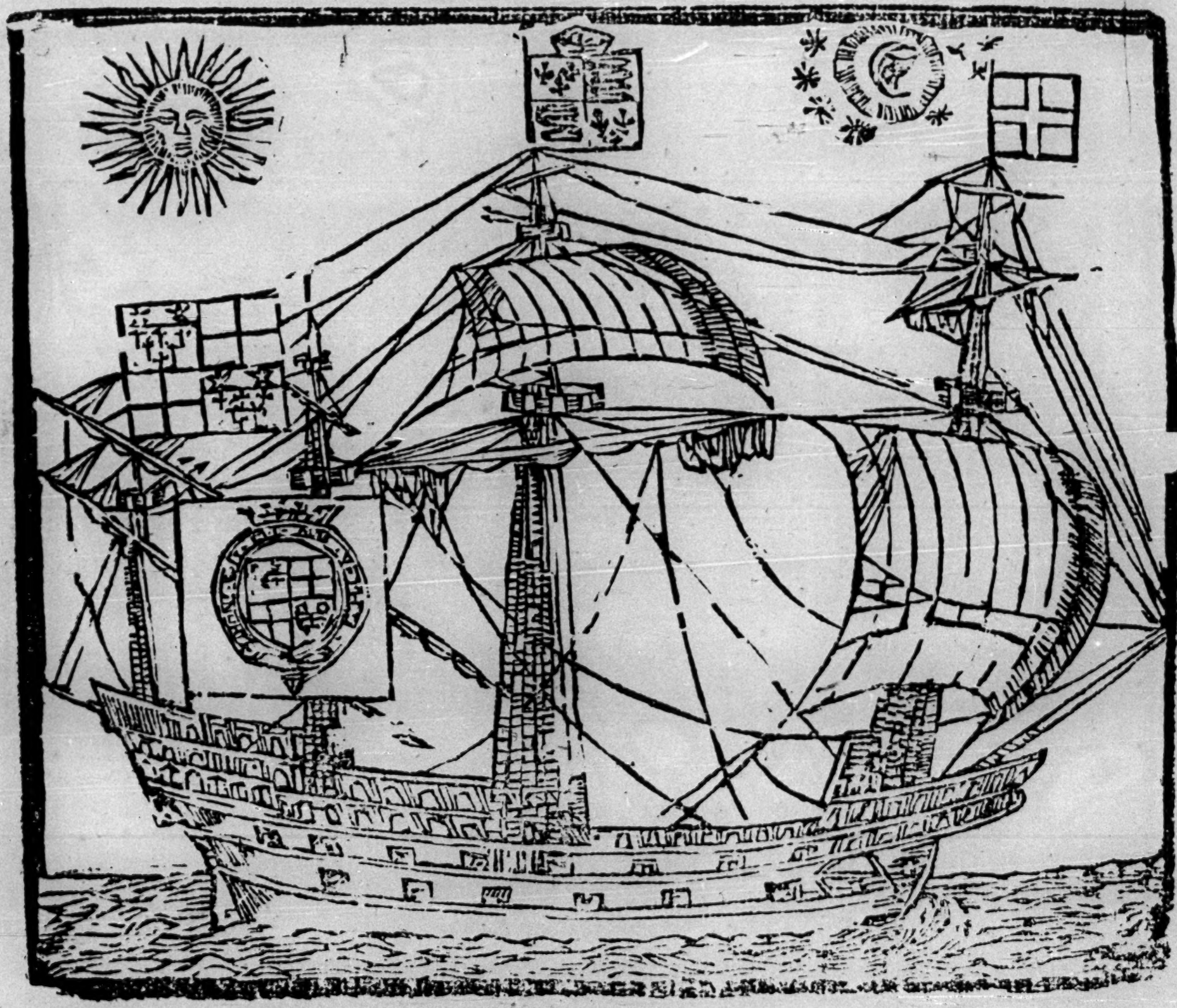

A LETTER VVRITTEN TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFVLL THE GOVERNOVRS AND ASSISTANTS OF THE EAST INDIAN MARCHANTS IN LONDON: CONTAINING THE ESTATE OF THE EAST INDIAN FLEETE, WITH THE NAMES OF THE CHIEFE MEN OF NOTE DEAD IN THE VOYAGE.

R. B.

AT LONDON
Imprinted for *Thomas Thorppe*, and are to be sould by *William Aspley*.
1603.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

A LETTER VVRITTEN TO THE RIGHT worshipfull the Gouernours and *Assistants of the East Indian Marchants* in London; containing the estate *of the East Indian Fleete, with the names* of the chiefe men of note dead *in the Voyage.*

RIght Worshipfull my dutie remembred. It may please you to vnderstand, that we wayed Anchor the 20. of Aprill 1601. and set saile out of *Torbaye* by *Dartmouthe.*

The 21. of Iune following, being in the heigth of three degrees to the Northwards of the line, wee tooke a ship of *Vianna* bound for *Brasill*, of the burthen of 130. tunne, her lading was Wine, Oyle and Meale, which hath stood vs in

great steede in this our voyage : fiue or sixe dayes after we turned her off after we had pillaged her as we thought good.

The 20. day of Iuly we turned away the *Guiste* beeing in the height of 19. degrees to the Southward of the Line, the 24. day we came vnder the Tropicke of *Capricorne*.

The 19. day of September we came to Anchor at *Saldaiua*, beeing in very great distresse by reason of the scuruy disease then raging among vs. The *Ascention* and *Susans* company were scarce able to let fall their Anchors without the helpe of other ships, there we staied and refreshed our men with fresh victuals, as Beefe and Mutton in great aboundance which cost vs little or nothing, there we staied about seauen weekes, and had staied there longer if the inhabitantes had continued to bring vs fresh victuals, so we departed thence the 9. of October.

The 29. of December we came to Anchor in the baye of *Antoga*, here we trucked with the inhabitants for Rice, Lemmans and Plantaines & such like fruite, we sette vp one of our Pinnaces : here also we lost diuerse of our men which dyed of the

Flix

Flix by reason of the great heate, and feeding of the Plantaines and Lemmans which they did deuoure immoderately.

This Baye is the Inland of *Saint Laurence* and standeth in the height of sixeteene degrees.

The 4. day of March we departed thence in the euening, and the first day of Iune 1602. we discried the land *Sumatra*.

The 3. day we Anchored in the Roade of *Achin* in seauen faddome water. To make any large discourse of matters which passed whilst wee lay in the Roade of *Achin* I omitte, because time will not permitte: But in few wordes you shall vnderstand, that heere wee found little Pepper, not sufficient to loade the *Ascention*, hauing in her little aboue eight score tunnes, we could not I thinke in all the East *Indiaes* haue come to a worser place for loading.

The 30. of Iuly the Generall sent away the *Susan* to *Priaman* to seeke her loading, being an Iland which lieth towardes the southwardes eight score leagues, a little distance from *Sumatra*, and about 20. dayes beforeour comming to *Achin*, the little

Pinnace came from her and certified ous generall ſhe was almoſt loaden, that we hope ſhe will not be long after vs.

The 11. of September we departed out of the roade of *Achin* for the ſtraights of *Mallaca* to ſeeke purchaſe: The Red *Dragon*, the *Aſſention*, the *Hector* and a Flemming which came into the Roade of *Achin* but 4. dayes before.

The 3. of October beeing Sunday about fiue of the clocke in the afternoone we ſaw a ſaile and gaue her chaſe, about nine of the clocke wee fetched her vp and hayled her, and found her to be a Ship come from *Goa* and bound for *Mallaca* laden with *Portingals* goodes, as *Pintados*, *Calicottes* and other ſtuffes great ſtore, a great part of her loading was Rice and victualls, and in her about ſeauen or eight hundred perſons men women and children, we had out of her 958. Fardils: and diuers cheſts with other things as *Caniſtees*: wee were forced from her by force of weather beeing put from our Anchors.

The 25. day we Anchored in the roade of *Achin*.

The 11. day of Nouember being Thurſeday we waied our Anchors and ſet ſaile from *Achin*, *viz.*

the

the *Dragon*, the *Hector*, and a little Pinnace, and the *Aſcention*, they did keepe vs company till the next day being bound for *Priaman* vnto the *Suſan*, and ſo from thence they were purpoſed to goe for *Bantam*, God grant they may get thither in ſafety, for then it is not to be doubted they ſhall get their full lading of Pepper according to their deſires, as ſhall appeare vnto you hereafter: So wee leauing them the day aboue ſaid, departed for *England*, to the great reioycing of vs all that were to goe home into our Country after ſo tedious a pilgrimage.

The 3. day of Februarie about 10. of the clocke afore noone, wee had ſight of the *Cape Bona eſperanſe* a Frenchman which we left in the roade of *Achin* being in our company, which came out a day after vs, who together had determined to goe for *Saldauia* if two Flemmings who came then into our company had not altered our determination, for after wee had hailed them, wee vnderſtood they were vnwilling to put in for that place, but to goe for *Saint Hellena*, ſo we ſtoode along with them, and altogether ariued at *Saint Hellena*.

The 21. day of the ſame month, the *Aſcention* and the Frenchman called the *Creſet* of *Saint Mallowes*, the two Dutchmen, the Admirall was called the Amſterdam about the burthen of

300. *Laſt*, and the other called the *Tergow*, of the bigneſſe of the *Aſcention*: which ſhippe hath beene almoſt thirty three monethes from home, and as they tould vs laden at *Petauia*, moſt of her lading beeing Pepper, and in their way homewward they touched at *Banton*, the people of *Banton* were glad when they came thither becauſe they thought they woulde haue laden Pepper, hauing great ſtore lying vpon their hands and being cheaper then ours is.

The generall of the Flemmings whoſe name is *Iacob Cornelius Van Neskes* toulde vs that there is Pepper enough to lade foure or fiue Ships, ſo that if the *Dragon* came there in any time conuenient it is not to bee doubted but they are vppon the waye homewardes full laden with Pepper, &c.

The Frenchmen haue determined ſuddainely to leaue our companye to depart homewardes, which hath made mee to trouble you with this diſcourſe, although not ſo large as willingly I would it were, for that time will not permitte mee to doe otherwiſe, hoping that it will not bee any thing diſpleaſing vnto you, hauing as I thinke not before this heard any certainety

tainetye of vs ſince our departure out of England beeing verie willing it ſhould come to your hands before you heare of vs any more, the better to prepare your mindes for the ſetting foorth of a new voyage. Wee ſhall bee readye to departe from hence the fifteenth day of this moneth of March,

GOD ſend vs home in ſafetye.

The names of the chiefe men *of note which are dead in the Voyage.*

THere was 182. men which were dead out of our Fleete before we parted from our Generall, three of our men dead since. Men of note which are dead, are these: *William Leake* Purser of this Shippe, *George Parsons* Purser of the *Hector*, Maister *Casell*, Maister *Horton* who married Alderman *Wattes* his daughter, which foure dyed before we came to *Saldauia*.

Bradbancke Maister of the *Dragon*, Maister *Pullion* our Preacher, Maister *Winter* Maisters mate, Maister *Napper* Maister of the *Hector*, these foure dyed at *Antogill*.

Maister *Brand* Captaine of the *Ascention*, going a shore in his Boate to the buriall of Maister *Winter*, very vnfortunately by a shotte that was made by the Gunner of the *Admirall*, was slaine, with another called *John Parker*, who steered the Boate.

The 27. of Februarie being Satterday, Maister *Haward* Captaine of the *Susan* dyed in the Roade of *Achin*, Maister *Stradling*, Maister *Winchcombe*,

Iohn

Iohn Iland, *Iames Chamley*, dyed in the Roade of *Achin*, Maiſter *Robert Pope* in the ſtraights of *Mallaca*, Maiſter *Thomas Saltin* in the Roade of *Achin*.

Thus being inforced to cut ſhort, I ceaſe for this preſent, praying for your proſperities in all your intended enterpriſes, according to your deſires.

Fare you well, from aboard the *Aſcention* at S. *Hellena*, the 9. of *March*,

1 6 0 2.